

spirally ascending the opening. Suture slightly channeled. On some specimens very fine, irregular, obscure, spiral striae are visible, especially toward the umbilicus, and several rather obscure spiral ribs often occur between the shoulder and the umbilicus. The shell is covered throughout with fine, fairly regular axial striae, which become coarser on the last whorl, giving the whole shell, under a lens, a peculiar roughened appearance, not noticeably smoother below the shoulder.

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A NEW HELMINTHOGLYPTA FROM MONTEREY COUNTY,  
CALIFORNIA

BY G. WILLETT

On July 5, 1930, the writer, accompanied by his wife and a party of friends, visited a fossil deposit of Miocene marine molluscs situated in Lowe Canyon, southern Monterey County, California. This locality lies between Ranchita and Vineyard canyons, on the westerly slope of the Diablo Range, about one mile east of the Vineyard Canyon road, which runs from San Miguel to Parkfield. Owing to prevailing excessive heat, only a short time was spent in examining the interesting deposits of fossil pectens and oysters, but during this time two helicoid fragments were found, which, though very imperfect, did not seem to belong to any species known to the writer.

On March 31, 1931, we again had the opportunity to visit Lowe Canyon, and a two hours' search among the ledges of fossiliferous rocks produced about a dozen specimens, mostly dead and in poor condition, but including three or four that were good enough for comparative study. As had been suspected, these proved to belong to an apparently undescribed species. This may be known as:

HELMINTHOGLYPTA REEDIANA, new species. Pl. 11, figs. 8, 9, 10.

*Description:* Shell rather small for the genus, moderately elevated; aperture almost circular, oblique; inner lip barely

reflected and encroaching slightly on the umbilicus; epidermis horn-colored; last whorl encircled by a reddish-brown band about one-half millimeter in width. Entire upper surface of type covered with irregular diagonal rows of fine papillae, these papillae merging on the the last whorl to form broken, raised lines, which extend over the base almost to the umbilicus. The extent and prominence of this papillation vary somewhat individually; in some specimens it extends onto the base, as in the type, and in others it ceases abruptly at the suture of the body-whorl. Last whorl marked by faint, incised, closely-spaced spiral striations, which are apparent on some parts of the surface and absent on others.

Type No. 1030, collection Los Angeles Museum; collected by G. Willett, in Lowe Canyon, Monterey County, California, March 31, 1931. Paratypes in collection of the writer.

*Measurements of type in millimeters:* Max. diam., 17.1; min. diam., 14.8; alt., 10.5; umbilicus, 2.8; number of whorls, 6.

Named for Mr. Fred M. Reed, of Riverside, California, well known shell collector.

*Remarks:* In general appearance *H. reediana* resembles *H. traski carpenteri* Newc., which occurs on the eastern side of the same range of mountains, but it differs from that species in slightly larger umbilicus and wide-spread papillation. Should specimens be found in the territory intervening between the known ranges of the two forms, they may prove to be but subspecifically distinct, but in the absence of such material, it is probably best to regard them as different species.

The writer is indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Work, of Ranchita, who originally guided him to the Lowe Canyon locality, as well as to the California Academy of Sciences, through Dr. G. Dallas Hanna, who furnished for comparative purposes a series of *H. t. carpenteri*, a species poorly represented in our collection.

Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California.